5. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the organic phosphoric ester that has been treated with the epoxy compound is treated with water or an acidic aqueous solution in advance of the treatment with the alkaline aqueous solution.

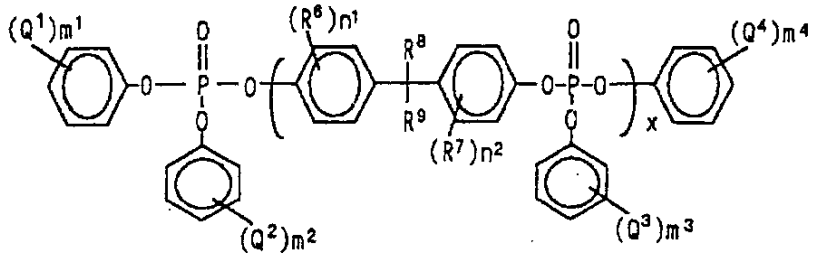
6. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the alkaline aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of an alkali metal carbonate.

8. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein an amount of an alkali compound in the alkaline aqueous solution is 0.1 to 50 molar equivalent with respect to the acid value of the crude organic phosphoric ester which is not yet treated with the epoxy compound.

9. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein a concentration of the alkaline aqueous solution is 0.01 to 10 wt%.

10. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the treatment with the alkaline aqueous solution is carried out at 60 to 120°C.

11. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the organic phosphoric ester is a compound represented by the general formula (II):



(II)

wherein Q^1, Q^2, Q^3 and Q^4, the same or different, are an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 6, R^6, R^7, R^8 and R^9 are methyl groups, m^1, m^2, m^3 and m^4, the same or different, are an integer of 1 to 3, n^1 and n^2, the same or different, are an integer of 0 to 2, and x is an integer of 0 to 5.

12. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the crude organic phosphoric ester is dehydrated in advance of the treatment with the epoxy compound.

13. (Amended-Clean Text) A method according to claim 1, wherein the organic phosphoric ester that has been treated with the alkaline aqueous solution is washed with water and subjected to steam distillation.